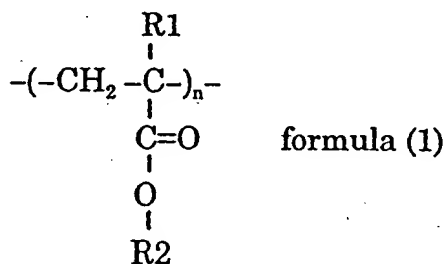


### Amendments to the Claims

**Cancel claim 2.**

**Amend claims 1, 3, 7 and 8.**

Claim 1 (Currently amended) An ink for ink jet printer comprising:  
a dispersant comprising an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent as a main component;  
a color material insoluble in said dispersant;  
a polymer including repeating units represented by the following general formula (1) and soluble in said dispersant; and  
a metal soap which is a metallic salt of a fatty acid wherein the number of carbon atoms of said fatty acid is 6 to 12,



wherein R1 is one of a hydrogen atom and a methyl group, and R2 is ~~one of~~ an alkyl group having 4 to 22 carbon atoms ~~and a derivative thereof.~~

Claim 2 (Cancel)

Claim 3 (Currently amended) The ink as set forth in claim 2 ~~1~~ wherein said fatty acid is selected from the group consisting of naphthenic acid, octylic acid and a mixture thereof.

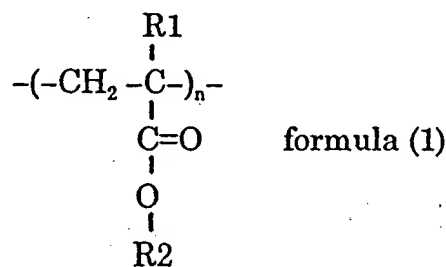
Claim 4 (Previously presented) The ink as set forth in claim 1 wherein said dispersant has a volume resistivity of at least  $10^{13} \Omega\text{cm}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  and said hydrocarbon solvent has a boiling point ranging from 150 to  $350^\circ\text{C}$ .

Claim 5 (Previously presented) The ink as set forth in claim 1 wherein said ink has a volume resistivity of at least  $10^{10} \Omega\text{cm}$  at a temperature of  $25^\circ\text{C}$  and said color material has a  $\zeta$  potential of at least 90 mV.

Claim 6 (Previously presented) An electrostatic ink jet recording apparatus comprising the ink as set forth in claim 1.

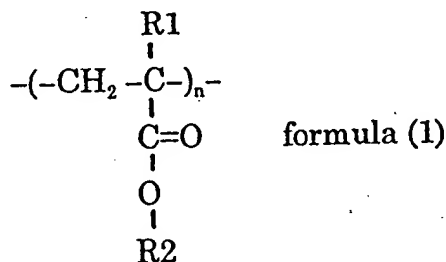
Claim 7 (Currently amended) A method of controlling electrostatic charge of a color material in an ink for an ink jet printer, comprising:

adding, to an ink comprising a dispersant having an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent as a main component, and a color material insoluble in said dispersant, a metal soap which is a metallic salt of a fatty acid wherein the number of carbon atoms of said fatty acid is 6 to 12, and a polymer having repeating units represented by the following general formula (1) and soluble in said dispersant,



wherein R1 is one of a hydrogen atom and a methyl group, and R2 is ~~one of~~ an alkyl group having 4 to 22 carbon atoms ~~and a derivative thereof~~.

Claim 8 (Currently amended) An ink for ink jet printer comprising:  
 a dispersant having a volume resistivity of at least  $10^{13} \Omega\text{cm}$  at  $25^\circ\text{C}$  comprising an aliphatic hydrocarbon solvent having a boiling point ranging from  $150$  to  $350^\circ\text{C}$  as a main component;  
 a color material insoluble in said dispersant;  
 a polymer including repeating units represented by the following general formula (1) and soluble in said dispersant; and  
 a metal soap which is a metallic salt of a fatty acid selected from the group consisting of naphthenic acid, octylic acid and a mixture thereof,



wherein R1 is one of a hydrogen atom and a methyl group, and R2 is ~~one of~~ an alkyl group having 4 to 22 carbon atoms ~~and a derivative thereof~~, wherein said ink has a volume resistivity of at least  $10^{10} \Omega\text{cm}$  at a temperature of  $25^\circ\text{C}$  and said color material has a  $\zeta$  potential of at least 90 mV.